



## A Message from the Executive Director



Children need and deserve permanence. To deny children a permanent family is to rob them of their childhood. Kids need to know that they have a permanent family, that they have a forever home. Without permanence, children have a difficult time feeling secure and confident in themselves and their future.

To kinship caregivers, I want to say "thank you" for your commitment to the children you have welcomed into your home. The benefits of a safe, loving, permanent home will last them a lifetime.

*Dean Sparks, Executive Director  
Lucas County Children Services*

# Kinship Subsidy Program



**To learn more about the Kinship  
Permanency Incentive (KPI) in  
Lucas County, call  
419-213-CARE (2273)**



**To report abuse or neglect:  
419-213-CARE (2273)**

**Switchboard:  
419-213-3200**

**Adoption/Foster Care Information:  
419-213-3336**

**Public Information and Speaker's Bureau:  
419-213-3253**

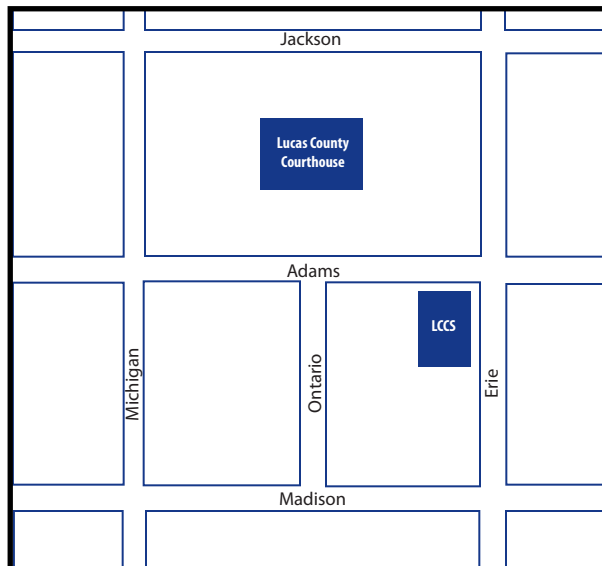
**Fax:  
419-327-3291**

[www.lucaskids.net](http://www.lucaskids.net)



8/08

**Lucas County Children Services**  
705 Adams Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604



## What is the Kinship Subsidy Program?

- Financial support for kinship caregivers—people who are raising the children of someone in their family.
- Supplements the OWF (Ohio Works First) child-only subsidy, with a combined amount up to \$300 for the first (or single child) and \$250 per month for siblings in the same home and custody.
- Limited to Lucas County children who have been abused or neglected, or deemed dependent. The children must be in the legal custody of the kinship caregiver.
- Subsidies are paid until the children turn 18 years old, providing there is no custody or placement change, or until funds are no longer available to support the program.

We understand that taking additional children into your home is not easy. It costs a lot of money to raise kids, not to mention the extra work of being responsible for a larger household. The KSP subsidy is intended to make things easier for you and help you meet the needs of the children.

### Who Can Receive KSP?

**Kinship guardians are eligible for KSP if:**

**A judge has ruled that the child has been abused, neglected, or dependent in Lucas County.**

**A favorable home study has been completed by LCCS.**

**The kinship caregivers are residents of Lucas County.**

**They assumed physical and legal custody of the child on or after November 1, 2006 and continue to do so.**



## How is KSP Different from the Kinship Permanency Incentive (KPI)?

- **Your family must have LCCS involvement.** Specifically, that means that the child has been placed in your home by LCCS.
- Lucas County Juvenile Court has ruled that the child is abused, neglected or dependent.
- Lucas County Juvenile Court has determined that giving you legal custody or guardianship is in the best interest of the child.
- **You must be a resident of Lucas County.** (You are no longer eligible if you move out of Lucas County.)
- There is no income eligibility requirement.
- KPI is funded by the federal government. KSP is funded by a local property tax levy.
- KPI is a time-limited subsidy (no more than 36 months). KSP is not time-limited – you can receive KSP as long as your family remains eligible and as long as the funds remain available.
- **Funding for this program is subject to change based on guidelines or availability of funds.**